

NEWS RELEASE

For more information contact Betty VanDeventer 402.471.4537 or betty.vandeventer@nebraska.gov

Jan. 9, 2015

WISE, LARSEN ELECTED TO LEAD STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



Rachel Wise of Oakland and Lillie Larsen of Lincoln were elected today to leadership posts on the State Board of Education.

Wise was re-elected president of the State Board of Education on a unanimous vote.

Larsen was unanimously elected vice president. Both Wise and Larsen have served on the State Board of Education since 2013.

Wise is a retired Nebraska teacher and administrator. She has spent 36 years serving both rural and urban school districts.

"I am honored and it is a privilege to have the State Board members' vote of support and the opportunity to lead the Board forward with the strong, shared leadership approach we have built over the past year," Wise said. "By working together, we can further strengthen our relationship with the Governor's Office, the Legislature, our policy partners and educators across the state.

"I am confident that the State Board will continue this year to focus on providing excellent educational opportunities for every student every day as we continue to develop, among other initiatives, the new school accountability system, AQuESTT, with a focus on quality, accountability and school improvement," Wise said.



Larsen served on the Lincoln Board of Education for 12 years before she was elected to the State Board of Education.

"I am honored to be elected to serve as vice president of the Nebraska State Board of Education," Larsen said. "I look forward to working with board members to support and improve education in Nebraska for all students.

"It is important to provide quality education for each and every student," she said. "The goal is to help students develop their interests and talents. I believe it is important to support students as they prepare for college and their future careers."